

Oblate Lourdes Pilgrimage 2023 - Day 2 Liturgies
Monday 18 September

Opening Mass – 9.15am
St. Bernadette Centre (Carmel Side)

Entrance Hymn

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.
*Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ be our light!
Shine in our Church gathered today.*

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to save us.
Make us your living voice.
Christ, be our light...

Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
making your kingdom come.
Christ, be our light...

Welcome by Fr. Lorcán O' Reilly O.M.I.

Introduction (Reader)

The theme of our pilgrimage this year is that we are all Pilgrims of Hope. It is a very important theme, because hope never disappoints. Optimism disappoints, but hope does not!

We have such need in these times which appear dark, in which we sometimes feel disoriented at the darkness which surrounds us, at the distress of so many of our brothers and sisters. We need hope! We feel disoriented and even rather discouraged, because we are powerless and it seems this darkness will never end.

We must not let hope abandon us, because God, with his love, walks with us. "I hope, because God is beside me": we can all say this. Each one of us can say: "I hope, I have hope, because God walks with me".

He walks and he holds my hand. God does not leave us to ourselves. For a Christian, to hope means the certainty of being on a journey with Christ toward the Father who awaits us. Hope is never still; hope is always journeying, and it makes us journey.

So as an Oblate family let us begin our journey of hope here in Lourdes and let us support one another with our prayers

A Reading from the Book of Genesis

Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. Abram took his wife Sarah and his brother's son Lot, and all the possessions that they had gathered ... and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan.

Responsorial Psalm (sung)

The Lord hears the cry of the poor. Blessed be the Lord.

I will bless the Lord at all times
His praise ever in my mouth
Let my soul glory in the Lord
For he hears the cry of the poor. (Response)

Let the lowly hear and be glad
The Lord listens to their pleas
And to hearts broken He is near
For he hears the cry of the poor. (Response)
We proclaim your greatness, O God,
Your praise ever in our mouth;
Ev'ry face brightened in your light,
For you hear the cry of the poor. (Response)

Gospel Acclamation (Sung)

I am the light of the world says the Lord;
anyone who follows me will have the light of life.

A reading from the Gospel according to St Matthew

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

"And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel." '

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' When they had heard of the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was.

When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Prayer for the Dedication of Workers

Bishop: I would now like to invite all those who will work as part of the pilgrimage to please stand for the prayer of dedication of workers.

Loving God, we ask you to bless all who have gathered here in Lourdes. We ask you to bless the members of the Oblate Hospitality Service, that in serving the sick they may experience Jesus' promise

– that whatever is done to the least of our sisters and brothers is done to him.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on us, enable us to act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with our God. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

Workers hold out both hands while the Bishop pronounces the blessing:

Bishop: May God bless your hands and your care of the sick. May God fill your hearts with his love so that you will be a source of peace, joy and love to those in your care. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen

Lighting Our Pilgrimage Candle

Reader: Our Pilgrimage Candle is a symbol of our journey together as pilgrims of hope. This is a journey of caring and friendship; sometimes strenuous, sometimes gentle, sometimes sad, sometimes joyful. Our candle burning brightly will remind us of the words of Jesus, when he said: 'I am the light of the world'. Anyone who follows me will have the light of life'.

I now invite to come forward and light the candle on all our behalf.

PC: Jesus, light of the world, we pray that this candle will burn brightly and be a sign of our care and service as we take part in the Oblate Lourdes Pilgrimage. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Reader: After this Eucharist the candle will be taken to the Chapel of Candles where it will remain burning over the coming days, giving us the opportunity to pray beside it during our pilgrimage. Another candle will be taken from our final service and remain as a reminder of our time here in Lourdes.

Prayer of the Faithful

PC: Let us now turn to God our Creator who is aware of our many needs.

Response to our prayers: **Hear our prayer**

Reader 1: As we begin our pilgrimage, we pray for all those who have asked us to remember and pray for them during our time here in Lourdes; and we remember all those who are joining our pilgrimage virtually. (pause)

Lord in your mercy.....

Reader 1: We pray for all our brothers and sisters around the world who are suffering because of war, famine and terrorism. Through our prayers and concern, may they know they are loved and not forgotten. (pause)

Lord in your mercy

Reader 2: Lord, in these days of pilgrimage, make us quiet and prayerful; in these days of challenge, make us stronger in you; in these days of emptiness, take possession of us; in these days of waiting, open our hearts to the mystery of your cross. (pause)

Lord in your mercy.....

Reader 2: For our young people: inspired by the life and example of St. Eugene, may they open their hearts and lives to living the gospel and serving the most abandoned in our society. (pause)

Lord in your mercy.....

Reader 2: We gather all our prayers, those spoken and those in our hearts, and offer them to God through Mary as we pray, Hail Mary.....

PC: Loving God, we have offered and made known to you our prayers and intentions in faith and hope. We ask that you hear and answer them, through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Offertory Hymn – Blest are you, Lord

Blest are you, Lord God of all creation,
Thanks to your goodness this bread we offer:
Fruit of the earth, work of our hands,
It will become the bread of life.
*Blessed be God; Blessed be God;
Blessed be God for ever. Amen.*

*Blessed be God; Blessed be God,
Blessed be God for ever. Amen.*

Blest are you, Lord God of all creation,
Thanks to your goodness this wine we offer;
Fruit of the earth, work of our hands,
It will become the cup of life.

Blessed be God

COMMUNION HYMN 1 – Soul of my Saviour

Soul of my Saviour, sanctify my breast
Body of Christ, be thou my saving guest
Blood of my Saviour bathe me in thy tide
Wash me ye waters, streaming from his side

Strength and protection may his passion be
O blessed Jesus hear and answer me
Deep in thy wounds Lord, hide and shelter me
So shall I never, ever part from thee

Guard and defend me from the foe malign
In death's dread moments make me only thine
Call me and bid me come to thee on high
Where I may praise thee with thy saints for Aye.

COMMUNION HYMN 2 - Lord Jesus Christ

Lord Jesus Christ, you have come to us,
You are one with us, Mary's Son.
Cleansing our souls from all their sin,
Pouring your love and goodness in,
Jesus, our love for you we sing, living Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ, you have come to us,
Born as one of us, Mary's Son.
Led out to die on Calvary,
Risen from death to set us free,
living Lord Jesus, help us see, you are Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ, I would come to you,
live my life for you, Son of God.
All your commands I know are true,
your many gifts will make me new,
into my life your power breaks through, living Lord

Post Communion Reflection (Reader)

May you recognise in your life the presence,
power, and light of your soul.
May you realize that you are never alone,
that your soul in its brightness and belonging
connects you intimately with the rhythm of the universe.
May you have respect for your individuality and difference.

May you realize that the shape of your soul is unique,
that you have a special destiny here,
that behind the facade of your life
there is something beautiful and eternal happening.
May you learn to see your self
with the same delight
pride and expectation
with which God sees you in every moment

- John O'Donoghue

Recessional Hymn

Sweet heart of Jesus, fount of love and mercy,
today we come, thy blessing to implore;
O touch our hearts, so cold and so ungrateful,
and make them, Lord, thine own for evermore.
*Sweet heart of Jesus we thee implore,
O make us love thee more and more.*

Sweet heart of Jesus, make us pure and gentle,
And teach us how to do thy blessed will;
To follow close the print of thy dear footsteps,
And when we fall - sweet heart, O love us still.
*Sweet heart of Jesus we thee implore,
O make us love thee more and more*



Stations of the Cross

In Lourdes, the pilgrim has a choice of two outdoor Stations of the Cross. One, known as the 'Low Stations' is best suited to those with limited mobility. The second is known to many pilgrims as the 'High Stations'

High Stations

The Way of the Cross on the hillside weaves along a steep wooded area. There are 15 stations along the 1,500 metre path.

The Way of the Cross for Assisted Pilgrims

These stations are located at the far end of the Domain on the Prairie side of the river.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS – High Stations
1.30pm Monday 18 September

Please note:

These stations can be quite arduous and are not for the faint-hearted !!

"If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me: (Mt. 15:24)

Here in Lourdes we follow in the footsteps of Jesus who 'went out, carrying his cross, to the place called the place of the skull, which in Hebrew is Golgotha' (Jn. 19:17)

We are here because we are convinced that the Way of the Cross was not simply a journey to the place of execution. We believe that every step of the condemned Christ, every action and every word, as well as everything felt and done by those who took part in this drama, continues to speak to us. In his suffering and death, Christ reveals to us the truth about God and humanity.



"Let us remember the sick, let us remember all those who have been abandoned under the weight of the Cross, that they may find in the trial of the Cross the strength of hope, of hope, in the resurrection and love of God."

Pope Francis, Good Friday 2014

STATIONS OF THE CROSS – LOWER STATIONS
2.30pm Monday 18 September

The **Way of the Cross** is truly a pilgrim way – a journey in faith with Jesus into the mystery of God’s love for us.

Jesus did not take up the Cross in order to show us how to die, but to show us how to live.

The story of Our Lady and St. Bernadette, the message of Lourdes, is none other than a call to renew in our hearts and in our lives the message of the Gospels.

- a message of the **Father’s love**, who sent his Son in poverty to seek out the poor and the sinner;
- a message of the **Son** who leads us to the Father;
- a message of **conversion**, a coming back to the Father with all our hearts;
- a message of **mission**, that we may witness to the way of Jesus in the church and in the world.



THE TORCHLIGHT MARIN PROCESSION

(An announcement will be made during the morning Mass letting you know where you should gather to join the procession behind the Oblate banner. The couriers from the travel agent will also have this information during your evening dinner.)

From April to October each year since 1872 this evening procession is a faithful response to the invitation of Our Lady to Bernadette during the 13th Apparition on 2 March 1858: *"Let people come here in procession ..."*



The procession starts at 9.00pm sharp.

Be sure to listen to announcements about this procession

*Salve regina, mater misericordiae;
Vita, dulcedo et spes nostra salve.
Ad te clamamus, exules filii hevae
Ad te suspiramus gementes et flentes
in hac lacrimarum vale
Eja ergo, advocata nostra,
illos tuos misericordes oculos
Ad nos converte.
Et Jesum, benedictum fructum ventris tui
Nobis post hoc exilium ostende.
O clemens, O pia, O dulcis, Virgo Maria*

